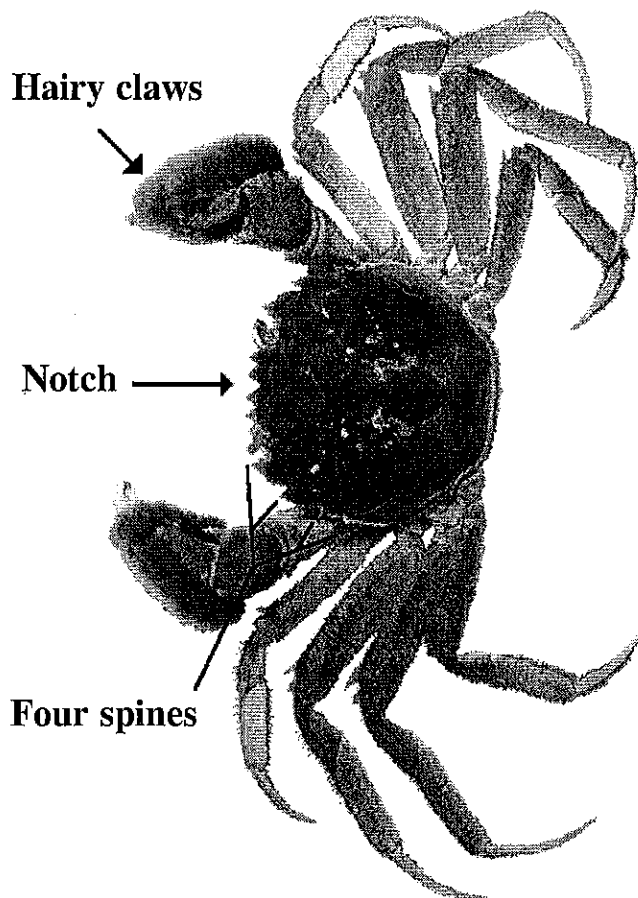


## IDENTIFICATION OF THE CHINESE MITTEN CRAB

*Eriocheir sinensis*



### ADULT CHARACTERISTICS

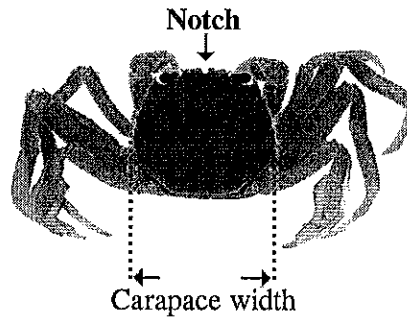
- hairy claws with white tips, normally equal in size
- notch between the eyes
- four lateral carapace spines (fourth spine is small)
- smooth, round carapace or body shape
- maximum carapace width (distance across the back) is approximately 80 mm (3 1/8 inches)
- legs over twice as long as the carapace width
- light brown color

**California Department of Fish and Game**  
**Bay-Delta Division**

For more information, contact Kathy Hieb at (209) 942-6078.

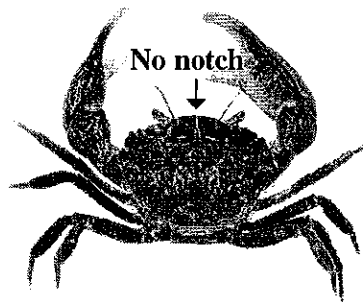
# IDENTIFICATION OF THE CHINESE MITTEN CRAB

## JUVENILE MITTEN CRAB vs. HARRIS MUD CRAB



### JUVENILE MITTEN CRAB CHARACTERISTICS

- notch between the eyes
- claws may not be hairy if carapace width is less than 20 mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$  inch)
- claws are hairy by 25 mm (1 inch) carapace width
- four lateral carapace spines (fourth spine is small)
- smooth, round carapace or body shape
- legs over twice as long as the carapace width
- light brown color



### HARRIS MUD CRAB CHARACTERISTICS

Small mitten crabs may be confused with the Harris mud crab, because of their similar size and appearance.

- no notch between the eyes
- non-hairy, white-tipped claws
- ridges on back
- dull greenish-brown color
- maximum carapace width is 19 mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$  inch)

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